

IN THE CLAIMS:

*Please replace paragraph 5 with the following:*

Router 126 is poised to place traffic onto the network, or to receive traffic from the network. Currently, in order to provision capacity from element ~~router~~ 106 to any particular direction, for example, to NYC, circuitry must be provided at element ~~router~~ 106 that converts electrical signals, and/or short-reach optical signals, to long-reach optical signals at a particular wavelength, and the developed optical signal must be coupled to the cable extending to NYC, for example with a coupler as shown in FIG. 2. To change the provisioning from NYC to, for example, Atlanta, the coupling had to physically be changed to couple the output signal of router 126 to the Atlanta cable, and the wavelength at which the signals are operating may have to be changed. Of course, capacity can be provided *ab initio* to all of the destinations, as shown in FIG. 2, but that is very expensive.